GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4600
ANSWERED ON:08.05.2007
BROADCASTING LICENCE
Deora Shri Milind Murli

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether over 40 channels are waiting for a Broadcasting Licence;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the time since when these channels are awaiting clearance;

(c) the time by which the Government is likely to issue licence to these channels; and

(d) the number out of these that are news, music and entertainment channels, separately?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI)

(a) & (b) : As on 30.4.2007, the proposals of 71 private satellite TV channels for permission to uplink from India are at various stages of scrutiny in accordance with the existing uplinking guidelines. The details of such channels are at Annexure.

(c) : Since the applications are in various stages of processing and comments/ clearances from other Ministries are also necessarily obtained as required under the guidelines, no definite time frame can be indicated.

(d) : The uplinking guidelines prescribe only two categories of channels namely News & Current Affairs and Non-News & Current Affairs. The category of the TV channels is indicated in the aforementioned Annexure.